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**National Weather Summary  
Volume 92, No. 7  
February 6 - 12, 2005**

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**Highlights:** Temperatures on the **northern High Plains** rebounded from early-week levels near 0 degrees F to late-week readings of 60 degrees F or higher. In **winter wheat areas on the northern Plains**, temperature extremes were among several crop-related concerns, which also included subsoil moisture shortages and occasional high winds. Elsewhere on the **Plains**, mild weather and adequate to abundant soil moisture reserves maintained generally favorable overwintering conditions for wheat. Across the **South**, showers also maintained abundant moisture supplies **west of the Appalachians**. In contrast, soil moisture reserves continued to diminish in much of the **Southeast**, although midweek showers aided pastures and winter grains in some areas, including **Georgia**. Farther south, increasingly dry conditions across **southern Florida** maintained the risk of wildfire activity and increased irrigation demands for citrus and winter crops. Meanwhile in the **Midwest**, several rounds of rain and wet snow across the **southern and eastern Corn Belt** maintained soggy field conditions in feedlots and winter wheat fields, where several freeze-thaw cycles caused some additional heaving of saturated soils. Elsewhere in the **Corn Belt**, mild, mostly dry weather prevailed in the **upper Midwest**, while locally heavy rain developed at week's end across the **middle Mississippi and lower Missouri Valleys**. Late in the week, stormy weather returned to **southern California** and the **Southwest**, causing renewed flash flooding in areas already affected by periods of excessive rainfall in October and from late December into early January. Farther north, however, mostly dry weather persisted in the **northern Rockies** and elsewhere across the **interior Northwest**. Meager **Northwestern** snow packs are not expected to provide much spring and summer runoff into already drought-lowered reservoirs.

Early in the week, unusual warmth in the **East** resulted in more than two dozen daily-record highs. Several locations, including **Burlington, VT** (50 and 49 degrees F), and **Morgantown, WV** (61 and 62 degrees F), posted consecutive daily-record highs on February 6 and 7. Cooler weather returned to the **East** after midweek, while record warmth developed across the **northern Plains** and **upper Midwest**. **Miles City, MT**, collected a daily-record high of 60 degrees F on February 11, just 3 days after a low of -1 degree F. In addition, **Miles City's** stretch without measurable precipitation reached 37 days (January 7 - February 12). Elsewhere in **Montana**, daily-record highs on February 11 included 65 degrees F in **Cut Bank** and 62 degrees F in **Great Falls**. **Cut Bank's** high also came 3 days after a sub-zero reading (-1 degree F on February 8). Farther east, **Kennebec, SD**, closed the week with consecutive daily-record highs (67 degrees F on both February 11 and 12).

During the first half of the week, several rounds of snow affected parts of the **central Plains** and **Midwest**. In **Nebraska**, **Hastings** measured daily-record totals on February 6 (4.4 inches) and 8 (5.1 inches) en route to a 3-day snowfall of 10.4 inches. Other daily snowfall records included 3.2 inches (on February 7) in **Des**

**Moines, IA**, and 5.0 inches (on February 8) in **Concordia, KS**. Meanwhile, early-week showers across the **South** resulted in daily-record totals in locations such as **Lufkin, TX** (1.89 inches), and **Monroe, LA** (1.59 inches).

During the mid- to late-week period, an intensifying storm system produced mixed precipitation in the **Great Lakes region** and heavy snow in **northern New England**. On February 9, **Fort Wayne, IN**, collected a daily-record snowfall of 3.0 inches. Farther east, **Bangor, ME**, received snowfall totaling 13.0 inches on February 10 and 8.0 inches on February 11, setting records for both dates. Storm-total snowfall locally topped 30 inches from **northern New Hampshire into central Maine**, where **Dover-Foxcroft** reported 32 inches. However, **southern New England** escaped another major snowfall, with February 10-11 totals reaching just 1.1 inches in **Boston, MA**, and 0.6 inch in **Providence, RI**.

Unsettled weather prevailed early in the week across the **Intermountain West**, where **Salt Lake City, UT**, collected a daily-record snowfall (7.6 inches) on February 7. Early-week snowfall topped 2 feet in some high-elevation locations stretching from **Utah's Wasatch Range into western Colorado**. Toward week's end, a strong, warm weather system moved into the **Southwest**. On February 11, daily-record rainfall totals included 2.48 inches in **Long Beach, CA**, and 1.36 inches in **Flagstaff, AZ**. In **New Mexico**, **Albuquerque's** pair of daily-record totals (0.25 and 0.56 inch on February 11 and 12) boosted its year-to-date precipitation to 2.22 inches. Previously, **Albuquerque's** wettest January 1 - February 12 period on record occurred in 1978, when 1.77 inches fell. Late-week rainfall topped 4 inches in several **Southwestern** locations, including **Yarnell, AZ** (4.25 inches), and **Opids Camp, CA** (6.21 inches). Major flooding was reported in parts of **Arizona**, including along the **Verde River near Clarkdale**, where the water level climbed from a pre-storm level near 1.5 feet to a February 12 crest of 17.94 feet. Even before the late-week storm's arrival, 4-month (October-January) precipitation totaled more than 150 percent of the normal annual rainfall in **southern Nevada** locations such as **North Las Vegas** (7.13 inches) and **Mt. Charleston** (32.81 inches). In contrast, November 1 - February 13 rainfall totaled 2.91 inches in **Tampa, FL**, the lowest total there during that period since 1976, when 1.97 inches fell.

Following several days of mostly dry weather, locally heavy showers returned to **Hawaii** at week's end. On February 11-12, 24-hour rainfall totals on **Oahu** included 3.77 inches at the **Wilson Tunnel** and 2.62 inches at the **Manoa Lyon Arboretum**. Meanwhile, 2.45 inches fell in **West Wailuaiki, Maui**. During the ensuing 24-hour period, February 12-13 rainfall on the **Big Island** reached 3.16 inches in **Laupahoehoe**. Elsewhere on the **Big Island**, **Hilo's** daily-record total of 3.21 inches on February 13 boosted its month-to-date sum to 13.69 inches (357 percent of normal). Farther north, near- to slightly above-normal temperatures prevailed across much of **Alaska**, although weekly readings were more than 10 degrees F below normal in a few western locations. Nevertheless, the week opened on a cold note in **southeastern Alaska**, where **Haines** (0 degrees F on February 6) posted a daily-record low. Meanwhile, widespread precipitation across **southern and western Alaska** contrasted with mostly dry weather elsewhere in the State. February 1-13 **Alaskan** totals included 0.84 inch (400 percent of normal) in **Bethel** and 10.18 inches (266 percent) on **Annette Island**.

**National Agricultural Summary**  
**February 7 - 13, 2005**

**Highlights:** Across most of the Nation, temperatures averaged above normal. In the Corn Belt and Ohio Valley, average temperatures exceeded the normal by over 6 degrees Fahrenheit, while some areas of New England saw temperatures as much as 15 degrees Fahrenheit above normal. Below-normal temperatures prevailed along the Pacific Coast, in the Intermountain West, and in parts of the central Great Plains and Florida. Toward the beginning of the week, a band of precipitation moved across the eastern half of the Nation, bringing moderate to heavy rain to the Mississippi Delta and surrounding areas but lighter precipitation along the east Coast. In the Northeast, however, up to 3 feet of snow was reported in some areas. Another system developed over the Southwest after midweek, dropping over 6 inches of rain in some areas. The Pacific Northwest, northern and central Rocky Mountains, northern Great Plains, and northern Corn Belt were mostly dry, with only light, scattered precipitation. The northern Great Plains remained mostly free of snow cover, leaving the winter wheat crop unprotected.

Warm, mostly dry weather in California spurred crop growth and encouraged fieldwork, including harvest of navel oranges and other citrus crops. Arizona producers harvested a variety of citrus and vegetable crops early in the week, but heavy rainfall toward week's end limited fieldwork. Texas's cotton harvest advanced slightly but remained incomplete, due to excessively wet conditions in some fields. In Florida, growers began picking late oranges, while harvest of earlier varieties continued.

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